

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Spencer-Penn School
other names/site number DHR# 044-5167

2. Location

street & number 30 George Taylor Road not for publication N/A
city or town Spencer vicinity _____
state Virginia code VA county Henry code 089 Zip 24165

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination _____ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets _____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant _____ nationally _____ statewide X locally. (____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official _____ Date _____
Virginia Department of Historic Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property _____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria. (____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

____ entered in the National Register

____ See continuation sheet.

____ determined eligible for the
National Register

____ See continuation sheet.

____ determined not eligible for the National Register

____ removed from the National Register

____ other (explain): _____

Signature of Keeper _____

Date of Action _____

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Colonial Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation _concrete_

roof _____ asphalt _____

walls brick

other wood

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- ☐ X_A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☐ X_C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- ___ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ___ B removed from its original location.
- ___ C a birthplace or a grave.
- ___ D a cemetery.
- ___ E a reconstructed building, object or structure.
- ___ F a commemorative property.
- ___ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Education, Social History

Architecture

Period of Significance 1926-1955Significant Dates 1926-7
1948Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
n/aCultural Affiliation n/aArchitect/Builder unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository: VA Department of Historic Resources

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 8.0 acres

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	<u>17</u>	<u>588184 4052593</u>	2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
3	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	4	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u> See continuation sheet.					

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Michael J. Pulice, Architectural Historian

Organization: Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Roanoke Region date January, 2005

street & number: 1030 Penmar Ave SE telephone 540-857-7586

city or town Roanoke state VA zip code 24013

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets**Maps**

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Spencer-Penn School Preservation Organization contact: Mary F. Jordan

street & number P.O. Box 506 telephone 276-957-1179

city or town Spencer state VA zip code 24165

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 1

Summary Description

The Spencer-Penn School began as a 3-room frame schoolhouse in 1910. In 1926-7, a large Colonial Revival brick structure was erected as the main school building, while the frame building remained in use for a number of years. In 1935, a small cottage was built adjacent to the school for home economics classes, followed by a frame auxiliary classroom building, now on the adjacent Ruritan Club-owned parcel that was formerly part of the school property. [The auxiliary classroom building is in fine condition and retains its historic integrity, but *is not included in this nomination* because of separate ownership.] Later the main (brick) building was outgrown and new wings were added to the side and rear. Beginning in 2000, the Henry County School Board consolidated its schools into a smaller number of new facilities and abandoned the Spencer-Penn property entirely in 2002. Today the school and grounds look much like they did in the 1960s, except there are no students, teachers, books, or desks.

Narrative Description

Site

The Spencer-Penn School, with its playground, ball fields, and ancillary buildings, occupy 8 acres of land on the south side of the intersection of county roads 695 and 949, at the center of the small, diffuse community of Spencer. Spencer is located in southwestern Henry County, off of U.S. Highway 58, about 5 miles north of the North Carolina border, between the Mayo River and Horse Pasture Creek.

Main School Building

The 1926 portion of the school's structural system is composed of a poured-concrete foundation and solid walls of dark red brick. Immediately above the foundation is a course of soldier bricks, emulating a Georgian style water table. The overlying brick walls are laid in Flemish variant bond, consisting of one Flemish course to every four stretcher courses. Most header bricks are darkened to simulate colonial-period glazed-header brickwork. The seven-bay façade is composed of three recessed central bays flanked by protruding wings of two bays each. The seven bays are divided by projecting brick pilasters with simplified, white-painted, concrete capitals. Centered on the façade is the arched main entrance, highlighted by bricks turned on end and white-painted pre-cast concrete keystone and impost capitals. Inside the archway, above the front door, the ceiling is treated with a single, large, pressed-tin panel, surrounded by a reeded cornice of the same material. On each side of the main entrance are bays of four-ranked, nine-over-nine, double-hung, wood sash windows. Across the protruding wings, pilasters alternate with flush panels of regular brick courses framed by projecting soldier bricks and white cornerblocks, completing the façade's symmetry and creating a lively rhythm. Just below the roofline, a plain wooden frieze and box cornice, painted white, appears to be supported by pilasters. The steeply pitched hip-and-valley roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 2

Large, non-descript, brick veneer sections were added to the rear of the school first in 1948, and again in 1961, as the number of students in the area increased. In 1960, the former auditorium at the center of the main building was divided into a library with a hall around it. It was replaced by the present gymnasium/auditorium on the east side of the later addition, completed in 1965.

The school's interior is divided by plastered stud walls with chair rails, plain wainscot, and base moldings. Each of the original classrooms retains its chalkboards, wood trim, window sash, built-in shelves, and pressed-tin ceilings. The interior doors have two unequal-sized recessed panels and operable six-light transom windows. The floors are covered with synthetic, possibly asbestos, tiles.

Home Economics Cottage

The cottage remains in its original location and has changed little since it was built in 1935. The frame structure has a continuous brick foundation, weatherboard cladding, an L-shaped gable roof covered with standing-seam tin, and a pedimented front porch supported by two pairs of square columns. At the gable ends are cornice returns and rectangular, louvered, attic vents. Within the porch pediment is a circular attic vent. The southeast quarter (kitchen) of the square-plan building is covered with a low hip roof, and the exterior walls of the rear half of the building jog in about 6 inches. This was done to make the cottage look like a simple, quaint, little, side-gable colonial house, without appendages, when viewed from the front. A brick, interior end chimney pierces the gable roof near the south end of the cottage. On each side of the front porch is a pair of six-over-six double-hung sash windows. On the rear (east) elevation is an additional entrance, with a pent roof supported by large, decorative wooden brackets. On the interior, the front door opens into a small classroom with a fireplace, blackboard, built-in shelves and a desk. To the left is a doorway to the dining room, with built-in china cabinets fitted into the far corners. To the rear is an additional room and a large kitchen well suited to small classes, with original built-in cabinets, sink and counter.

Old Frame Classroom Building

Although this building is not within the nominated parcel and is therefore *not considered a contributing building* for the purposes of this nomination, it bears honorable mention and a brief description here. The building appears to be in good hands. It is sited in a highly visible location to the rear of the school property and has been maintained in fine condition. Moreover, its historic integrity has not been compromised. Constructed during the 1934 -1937 period, the one-story building contained two classrooms and served in an auxiliary capacity. It is an elongated side-gable, light-frame, weatherboarded structure, set on a concrete-block foundation, with two sets of five contiguous double-hung sash windows on the front (east) elevation only. The roof, covered with standing-seam sheet metal, appears to be original. At each end of the front elevation are the entrances to each classroom. The entrances are identically treated with single doors, single-light transoms, and small, bracketed gable roofs. The interior plan is a long and narrow rectangle without a hallway, divided by an impermanent partition into two equal-sized spaces.

Continuation Sheet

Section 7, 8 Page 3

The original flooring of 2-inch-wide oak is well preserved. The walls are traditional plaster with painted wainscot. The high ceiling is treated with square pressed-tin panels and decorative cornice. The old blackboards, and even the original dangling, single-globe, white glass, light fixtures remain.

8. Statement of Significance

The Spencer-Penn School, a solid brick Colonial Revival building constructed in 1926-7, stands as an important vestige of the educational and social history of the Spencer community. The school and ancillary buildings, including a mid-1930s Home Economics cottage and frame auxiliary classroom building, are the only surviving pre-World War II non-domestic structures in Spencer. Rural consolidated schools fulfilled important roles in the education and civic life of rural communities in Virginia for generations of students who attended, and for their families whose community life centered there. Accounts of student and community life at Spencer-Penn School present solid testimony for its educational and social significance. Since the early twentieth century, the school grounds have been used for myriad social functions, community activities, and athletic events. The school buildings are also significant for the high quality of their architectural design and construction, as well as their exemplification of the public school architecture of the post-World War I period in Virginia.

Applicable Criteria

The Spencer-Penn School is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A in the areas of Education and Social History because of its central role to the Spencer community throughout most of the twentieth century. Having survived with architectural integrity intact, the Spencer-Penn school buildings are eligible under Criterion C for their inherent quality of design and construction. The school is also significant for its exemplification of 1920s Virginia Board of Education standard school building designs. These designs are well documented in the Library of Virginia collection of Virginia

Department of Education School Buildings Service Architectural Drawings.

Acknowledgements

Mary F. Jordan, who was a Spencer-Penn student from 1955 to 1962 and also a teacher at Spencer-Penn from 1970 until it closed in 2002, provided the bulk of the information about the school contained herein. The following individuals also provided valuable information: Henry County Archivist Carl deHart, Jean Hensley (Class of 1933), Geneva Hensley (Class of 1938), Irene Martin (Class of 1942), and Dr. John Kern of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Roanoke Regional Office.

Continuation Sheet

Historical Background

The Spencer Community

Members of the Spencer family settled in present-day Henry County in the early 1780s. James Spencer, Sr. and son James, Jr. came from Loudoun County, Virginia. By 1783, James, Jr. had obtained land on Horsepasture Creek and erected a house. A grandson of his, Daniel Harrison Spencer, later acquired property in the immediate area in the mid-late nineteenth century and began to amass considerable wealth. The 1860 census stated his real estate holdings (some 2400 acres) were worth \$50,000. He also owned forty-two slaves who worked mostly in tobacco cultivation, but also in producing other staple crops such as corn, wheat, rye and oats. In the late 1850s, Spencer began large-scale production of plug tobacco at Spencer. By 1860, he and George Dillard operated the Spencer & Dillard Tobacco Factory, employing a crew of 28 men and 3 women, and producing 113,00 pounds of tobacco valued at \$27,300. Around this time, Spencer built his mansion on "Grassdale Farm," just east of the present-day Spencer-Penn school property.¹

The Civil War brought hard times for the farm and factory, but in 1869, Spencer's son, David William Spencer, ostensibly took control of the company. D.H. Spencer maintained part of the business as a "farmer and merchant," who dealt in general merchandise. By 1874, the Spencer concerns were once again flourishing. A number of black persons lived in the vicinity after the war and continued to work in tobacco production. During the early 1890s, the factory manufactured nine brands of chewing tobacco and was operated under the name D. H. Spencer & Son.²

In 1870, a post office opened with D.H. Spencer's son Peter D. Spencer as its first postmaster, and the community that had grown up around the farm and factory became known as Spencer's Store or simply Spencer. In 1878, the Spencers built a new store that stood at the southwest corner of US 58 and state route 695 until the late 1940s. A development in the history of the Spencer community was the construction of the Danville & Wytheville Railroad, which provided service to the community from 1883 through 1941. D.H. Spencer served as president of the railroad company for a period of time.³

Virginia Public Schools

The history of education in county public schools in Virginia begins in 1870 when the public school system was created, employing one-room schools. By the 1880s, graded schools of two or three rooms were built for students grouped by class and age. After 1920, Progressive Era concerns for school reform resulted in standard plans for consolidated schools with classrooms around a central auditorium. Consolidated school auditoriums and other assembly rooms provided space that served as community centers for rural life.⁴

Continuation Sheet

Three basic categories of Virginia public school buildings were constructed between 1870 and 1940: *one-room schools* built after the establishment of the free public school system from 1870 to around 1910; *two- and three-room schools* built between around 1880 and 1910; and *four-or-more-room consolidated schools* built from around 1900 to 1940.⁵

By 1920, Virginia's State Board of Education established a School Building Service from whom local school boards received plans and specifications for a new standard school building designed with classrooms around a central study hall/assembly room. The assembly room also served as space for community activities, thus fulfilling community service functions encouraged by the Roosevelt Country Life Commission. Also during the 1920s, the State Board of Education managed to consolidate small school districts, several per county, into a more unified system of countywide school boards. This arrangement facilitated implementation of State School Board policies and the adoption of standard school building plans.⁶

The new standard plan for consolidated schools provided for a one-story design with a central assembly-study hall fronted and often flanked by classrooms. Generally of brick construction, the one-story schools were built above a partial, or sometimes a full, raised basement. In the standard plan provided by the State Board of Education in 1921, a central entrance opened onto a foyer that provided access to the assembly room and classrooms on each side of the foyer. The assembly room provided direct access to all bordering classrooms, while side exits opened directly from classrooms into the schoolyard. The standard plan called for placement of a heating system and bathrooms in the raised basement. The elimination of outdoor privies and the provision of a central assembly hall embodied changes that made the new consolidated schools centers for progressive advances in rural life.⁷

Many consolidated schools built in southwest Virginia between World War I and World War II featured two-story variants of the one-story brick school building plan with classrooms around a central auditorium. A few plans for two-story consolidated schools in southwest Virginia made no provision for an auditorium, probably because an auditorium was already available in an adjacent school building. Most of these schools also featured specialized classroom space utilized for libraries or science laboratories.⁸

Spencer-Penn School History

The history of Spencer-Penn School began in 1910, when D. H. Spencer's daughter and Grassdale farm heiress, Mary Spencer Buchanan (1860-1949), donated land for a 3-room frame school for grades 1-7.⁹ She also supported the school by volunteering in the landscaping of the grounds and other school projects throughout the remaining of her life. The 1950 school annual, *The Spencerian*, memorialized her as one who opened her home to the faculty and students and

Continuation Sheet

one who supplied any need to the school. In 1926, the construction of the present brick building, with five classrooms and a large auditorium, was underway with the help of a large donation from the Jefferson Penn Family.¹⁰ The new school building opened the following year, with grades 1-7. High school (grades 9-12) now began occupying the old frame structure.¹¹

Until the high schools were consolidated in the fall of 1952, elementary consisted of grades 1-7 and high school started with freshmen (9th) through seniors (12th). Therefore, some Spencer-Penn students graduated with only 11 years of school. 1950 was the first year there was an eighth grade ever in the history of Henry County, but now ninth grade was eliminated and eighth graders jumped directly to tenth grade.¹²

Around 1934-37, another frame building was constructed close to the high school building. It had two large classrooms and narrow rooms the width of the building on each end, used as the principal's office and a biology lab.¹³ The existing Home Economics cottage was built on the west side of the brick school in 1935.¹⁴ In 1939, a frame agriculture building was built on south side of brick building.¹⁵ After the second World War, class sizes swelled and all available space was outgrown. In 1948, the first major addition was built on the southwest corner of the main building, containing five classrooms, girl's and boy's restrooms, and a cafeteria in the basement.¹⁶

The Library of Virginia has drawings for additions and alterations to be made to Spencer-Penn School, dated July 1942.¹⁷ That year is not mentioned in oral or written histories, although it may be that the plans were drawn up in 1942, but construction did not take place until a few years later, in 1948. The library also has two pictures of the school, taken just before construction was completed, in June 2, 1927.¹⁸

The 1952 class was the last to graduate from Spencer-Penn School. Henceforth, high school students would go to Drewry Mason High School, and Spencer-Penn was now exclusively for grades 1-7. In 1954, the original, ca. 1910, three-room frame high school building and part of the agriculture building torn down. The remaining building, consisting of one classroom and another large room, later became the first school cannery in Henry County. In 1960, the former auditorium in the main building was divided into a library with a hall around it. The following year, the 1934-1937 frame structure was moved to the rear of the school property to make way for the new lower wing, containing five classrooms (four of which had a bathroom), added to the main building.¹⁹ The present gymnasium, with a large stage and girl's and boy's bathrooms, was completed in 1965. Within a year, a kitchen and cafeteria were adjoined to the east side of the gymnasium.²⁰ The cannery building stood until 1983, when it was destroyed by a windstorm.²¹

Spencer-Penn students were the children of farmers, furniture factory workers and other blue-collar workers, yet the school had a reputation for producing superior students. Mr. O. E. Pilson,

Continuation Sheet

principal at Drewry Mason High School 1952-1966, often said the best students came from Spencer-Penn.²²

The Center of Community Life

Community support for the school began with the donation of land and a large sum of money from the Spencer and Penn families. Other families also helped supply materials and labor. Men from the community cleared the future ball field of stumps using horse teams and also excavated the school basement, which housed the first cafeteria. They also built the baseball stadium, donating labor and materials.²³

Community volunteers assisted with special programs that took place at Spencer-Penn. For instance, a private piano teacher directed the Glee Club, Christmas programs and other special programs such as the Miss Spencer-Penn Pageant.²⁴

1940 brought the first Spencer Fair, an event that has continued on the school grounds for 64 years. Agriculture teacher, Mr. Ralph Tavenner, and the agriculture and home economics classes first sponsored this event, which included competitions in livestock, poultry, garden produce, canned goods, needlecraft, etc. Community members donated goods for sale to help the school.²⁵

Sports played an important role throughout the school's history. Besides building the baseball stadium, the community supported boy's baseball, girl's softball, and girl's and boy's basketball teams. Games were played on Saturdays and even on Sundays. There were spring teams, summer teams and fall teams, all drawing large crowds.²⁶

Through the years, Spencer-Penn had a strong Parent-Teacher Association. With their leadership, the community was able to buy supplies for the school when the county had no funds. They provided playground equipment, a sound system, library books, computers, copiers, a play area and more. Supplies for children who could not afford them were purchased through fundraisers and donations.²⁷

The Spencer Alumni Association was formed prior to 1948.²⁸ Alumni who lived close by remained faithful and supported events at the school. In 1990, the Alumni Association created the George Burton Scholarship Fund (named for a former principal), which awards scholarships to any former student or child of a former student. In 2004, four scholarships of \$2000 were awarded. In the 1990's, Spencer-Penn celebrated American Education Week each year by inviting all alumni. Pictures were taken of the alumnus and the child who invited him or her. Many of these alumni continued to write their "child" throughout the year. Alumni who lived too far away to visit sent letters relating some of their memories and what the school meant to them. These items were saved in a scrapbook.

Continuation Sheet

Notes

1. Pezzoni, J. Daniel, "Grassdale Farm, Henry County, Virginia, National Register of Historic Places nomination," 11-12.
2. Pezzoni, 11-12.
3. Pezzoni, 12.
4. John Kern, "Thematic Evaluation of County Public School Buildings in Southwestern Virginia." 2.
5. McCleary
6. Kern, 3.
7. Kern, 2-9.
8. Kern, 2-9.
9. Carl deHart, Henry County Archivist; Ms. Sadye Perry (teacher at Spencer-Penn School 1927-1958), Scrapbook.
10. Carl deHart, Henry County Archivist; Sadye Perry Scrapbook.
11. Hensley, Jean (Class of 1933); personal communication with Mary Jordan, November 2004.
12. In the fall of 1952, Drewry Mason had a large class of eighth and ninth graders and only three tenth graders (who had been retained). Drewry Mason remained a high school until 1988 when Magna Vista was opened and then Drewry Mason became a middle school. It is now closed. Mary F. Jordan, personal communication, December, 2004.
13. Hensley, Geneva (Class of 1938); personal communication with Mary Jordan, November 2004.
14. Original Blueprints, now in possession of the Spencer-Penn School Preservation Organization.
15. Blueprints.
16. Information inscribed on plaque in school hall.
17. Department of Education School Buildings Service, "Architectural Drawings and Plans, Schools, 1920-1970," Library of Virginia, Richmond.
18. Virginia Dept. of Education School Buildings Service Photographs, Library of Virginia online photographic collections, <http://www.lva.lib.va.us/whatwehave/photo/index.htm>
19. Blueprints; personal communication with Mary Jordan, Spencer-Penn student 1955-1962 and Spencer-Penn teacher 1970-2002.
20. Mr. C.D. Joyce, principal at S-P 1965-1992; December 2004.
21. Martinsville Bulletin, November 16, 1989.
22. Irene Martin, Spencer-Penn Class of 1942, personal communication with Mary Jordan, December 2004.
23. Mary Jordan, personal communication, January 2005.
24. Irene Martin, 2004.
25. Mary Jordan, 2005.

Continuation Sheet

- 26. Mary Jordan, 2005.
- 27. Mary Jordan, 2005.
- 28. Irene Martin, 2004.

9. Bibliography

- McCleary, Ann. "Public Schools in Augusta County, Virginia, 1870-1940." National Register of Historic Places, thematic nomination report, 1984. Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Virginia, VDHR File 07-1175.
- John Kern, "Thematic Evaluation of County Public School Buildings in Southwest Virginia." Roanoke Regional Preservation Office, Virginia Department of Historic Resources, October, 2000.
- Jordan, Mary, Spencer-Penn student 1955-1962 and Spencer-Penn teacher 1970-2002, personal communication, December 2004-January 2005.
- Martin, Irene, Spencer-Penn Class of 1942, personal communication with Mary Jordan, 2004.
- Martinsville Bulletin, November 16, 1989.
- Perry, Sadye (teacher at Spencer-Penn School 1927-1958), Scrapbook, Henry County Archives, Martinsville.
- Pezzoni, J. Daniel, "Grassdale Farm, Henry County, Virginia, National Register of Historic Places nomination," December, 2001, 11-12. Grassdale Farm, DHR# 044-0010, received NRHP listing in 2002.
- Original Blueprints, now in possession of the Spencer-Penn School Preservation Organization.
- State Board of Education. Supplement No. 1. Description of Standard School Building. Superintendent of Public Printing. Richmond, Virginia, 1921. Copy at Library of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia.
- Virginia Department of Education, School Buildings Service. Architectural Drawings and Plans, Schools, 1920-1970. Library of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia Accession 28487.
- Section 9, 10, photo Page 10**

Bibliography, continued

Continuation Sheet

Virginia Department of Education, School Buildings Service. Photograph Collection.
Library of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia. Digitized images of 3,100 school building
photographs.

10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The 8.0-acre nominated parcel is identified as 601790051 in Henry County Deed Book 47, page 18. It is bounded on the north and east sides by county roads 949 and 695, respectively, and by other parcels to the south and west.

Boundary Justification

The boundary of the nominated parcel includes both contributing buildings and all of the historic school property from the period of significance.

Photographs

All photographs are of:

Spencer-Penn School (DHR #044-5167) Henry County, Virginia
December 2004

Photographer: Michael J. Pulice

Negative #: 21984, 21985

Location of negatives: Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond

1. VIEW OF: School building exterior-front elevation. Neg. No. 21984
2. VIEW OF: School building exterior-front elevation. Neg. No. 21984
3. VIEW OF: School building exterior-front entrance detail. Neg. No. 21984
4. VIEW OF: School building exterior-west elevation. Neg. No. 21984
5. VIEW OF: School building exterior-east elevation. Neg. No. 21984
6. VIEW OF: School building interior hall. Neg. No. 21985

Section photo, continued Page 11

7. VIEW OF: School building interior hall. Neg. No. 21985

8. VIEW OF: School building interior-library. Neg. No. 21984
9. VIEW OF: School building interior- classroom. Neg. No. 21984
10. VIEW OF: School building interior- classroom. Neg. No. 21984
11. VIEW OF: School building interior- classroom ceiling. Neg. No. 21985
12. VIEW OF: School building interior- wall mural in gym. Neg. No. 21985
13. VIEW OF: Home-Economics Cottage- front. Neg. No. 21985
14. VIEW OF: Home-Economics Cottage- oblique view. Neg. No. 21985
15. VIEW OF: Auxiliary classroom building on neighboring Ruritan Club property.
Neg. No. 21985